Warner Fletcher, civic leader and great friend to the Worcester community, we honor you today for your many years as an ambassador and advocate for WPI.

The Fletcher family’s long connection to WPI begins with your father, Paris Fletcher, who served as a university Trustee and Trustee Emeritus from 1953 until his death in 1989. He and your mother, Marion Stoddard Fletcher, were inaugural members of WPI’s 1865 Society, recognizing those who have given $1 million or more to the university, as is the Stoddard Charitable Trust, which was founded by your maternal grandfather, Harry G. Stoddard.

You continue this legacy of leadership and philanthropy. Named to the WPI Board of Trustees in 1993, you have helped to guide the university as a member of the Advancement, Nominations and Governance, Academic Planning and Student Affairs, Investment, and Budget and Finance committees. Like your father, you serve as vice chair of the Board, a position you also held from 2000 to 2008. In addition, you served as interim chair of the board. You are also a valued member of the Campaign Steering Committee, which is charged with the strategic planning for WPI’s current and most ambitious capital campaign. You and your wife, Mary, lead by example. Your generous support of WPI has placed you in the university’s prestigious 1865 Society.

Your dedicated service to WPI is just one component of your civic leadership here in Worcester. You are a trustee of many Worcester area charitable organizations, including the George I. Alden Trust, Fletcher Foundation, Stoddard Charitable Trust, Wyman-Gordon Foundation, Hoche-Scofield Foundation, Albert J. Gifford Charitable Trust, and the Greater Worcester Community Foundation. Over the years you have also served on many other Worcester area nonprofit organization boards and continue to be so involved today.

You have been a tireless advocate for WPI and, in particular, the university’s Worcester Community Project Center, which sets WPI students to work solving problems of consequence to the city and its residents. Through your leadership, foundations and organizations have funded the center and opened their doors to our students and faculty.

Warner Fletcher, in gratitude for everything you do on behalf of our students and faculty, we present you with the WPI Award for Distinguished Service.